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Paper No.:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): KAMINSKI, Chris; LEBOE, David; LEE, Michael
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CELL VOLTAGE MONITORING
Serial No.: 10/667270
Filed: 17 September 2003
Examiner: Robert J. Grant Art Unit: 2838
Date: 30 September 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Responsive to the Office Action mailed 4 April 2005 as extended by the accompanying Petition, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's claim rejections. In the Office Action, the Examiner:

- rejected claims 1-4, 18-23 and 28-30 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious in light of Torii et al. (US 6,147,499) in view of Harvey (US 6,094,053);
- rejected claims 5-6, 9-16 and 24 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious in light of Torii in view of Harvey, and in further view of Harris et al. (US 6,798,312);
- rejected claims 7-8 and 25 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious in light of Torii in view of Harvey and Harris, and in further view of Kagan et al. (US 6,735,535);
- rejected claim 27 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious in light of Torii in view of Harvey, and in further view of Kagan.

All of the Examiner's claim rejections ultimately stem from the Examiner's view that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the battery monitoring circuitry taught by Torii to replace Torii's mutually insulated external power sources with Harvey's teachings of using the battery itself as the power source for the monitoring circuitry. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion in this regard and respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's claim rejections for the reasons set out below.